

**DIRECT TESTIMONY OF STEVEN J. LEVITAS
ON BEHALF OF
THE SOUTH CAROLINA SOLAR BUSINESS ALLIANCE**

EXHIBIT SJL-5

CONSERVATIVES FOR
CleanEnergy
SOUTH CAROLINA

South Carolina Clean Energy Survey

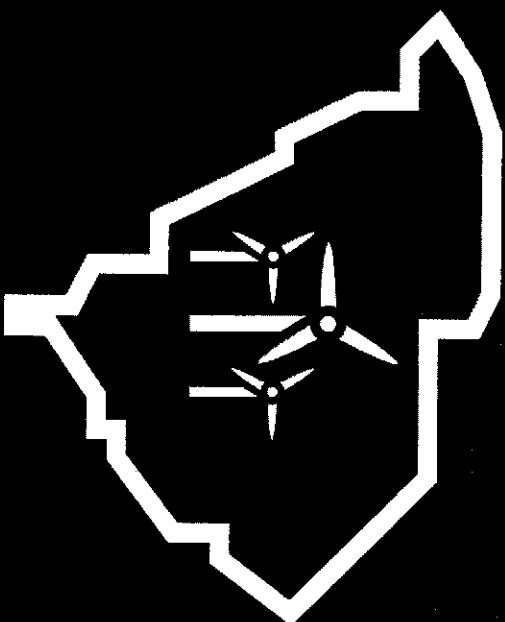


CONSERVATIVES FOR **CleanEnergy**

N=500 Likely Voters; MOE = $\pm 4.4\%$
33% Cell Phone Interviews
Conducted March 11-13, 2019

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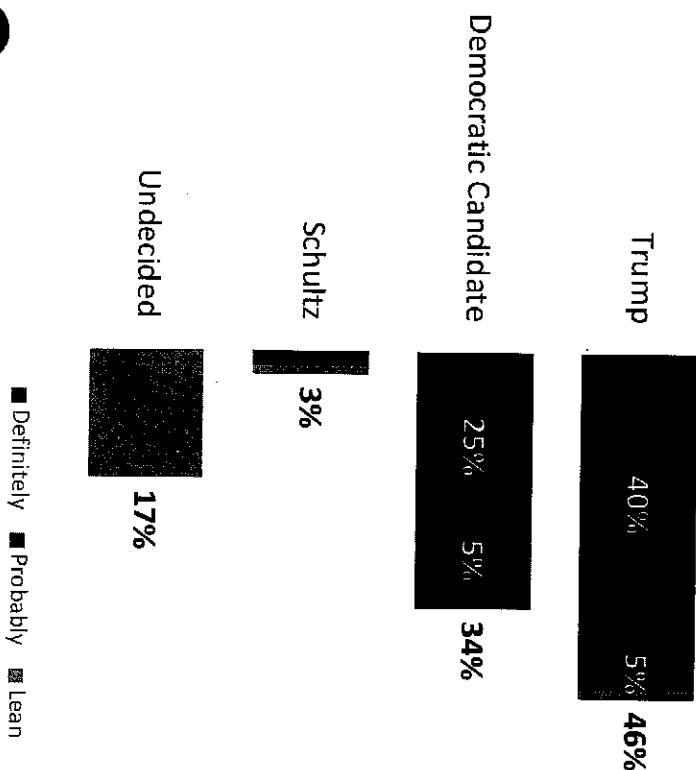
The South Carolina Political Environment





If the election for President were held today, a plurality would vote for Donald Trump (46%), representing a 12-point lead ahead of a generic Democrat nominee (34%). Just three percent (3%) select Schultz and a significant seventeen percent (17%) are undecided.

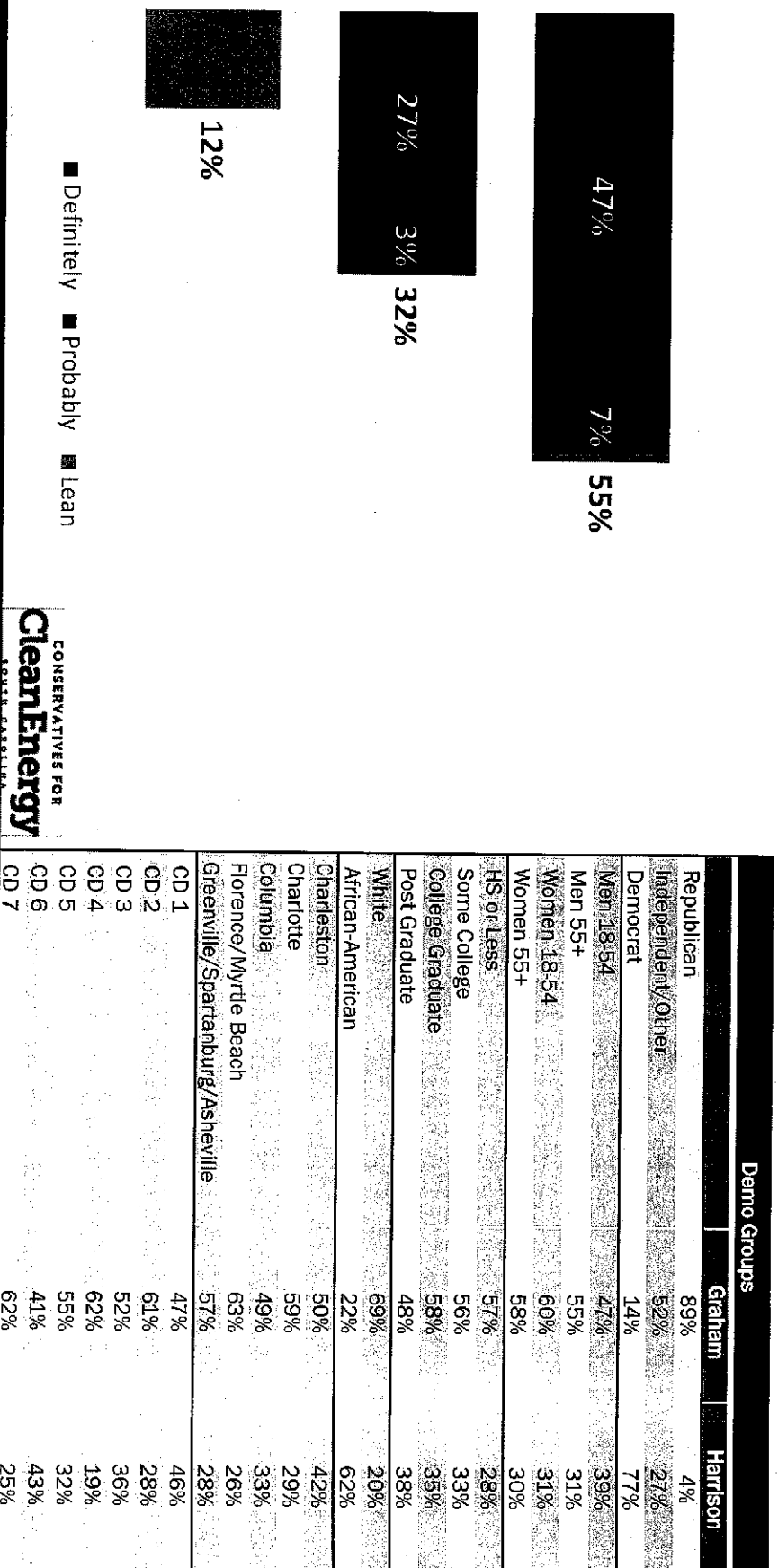
3. If the election for U.S. President were held today, for whom would you vote if the candidates were Donald Trump, Republican, Howard Schultz, Independent, or The Democratic Candidate?



Demo Groups		
	Trump	Dem Candidate
Republican	85%	6%
Independent/Other	38%	23%
Democrat	4%	84%
Men 18-54	36%	39%
Men 55+	55%	27%
Women 18-54	47%	34%
Women 55+	47%	35%
HS or Less	43%	40%
Some College	53%	26%
College Graduate	44%	34%
Post Graduate	37%	38%
White	61%	21%
African-American	9%	67%
Charleston	39%	45%
Charlotte	62%	23%
Columbia	36%	33%
Florence/Myrtle Beach	51%	33%
Greenville/Spartanburg/Asheville	53%	28%
CD 1	42%	48%
CD 2	56%	23%
CD 3	45%	31%
CD 4	59%	29%
CD 5	50%	29%
CD 6	23%	46%
CD 7	49%	32%

Senator Graham enjoys a 23-point lead and majority support on the ballot (55%) ahead of potential Democrat candidate Harrison. Further, nearly half of all likely voters (47%) indicate they would "definitely" vote for Graham if the election were today.

4. And, if the election for U.S. Senate were held today, for whom would you vote if the candidates were Lindsey Graham, Republican, or Jamie Harrison, Democrat?



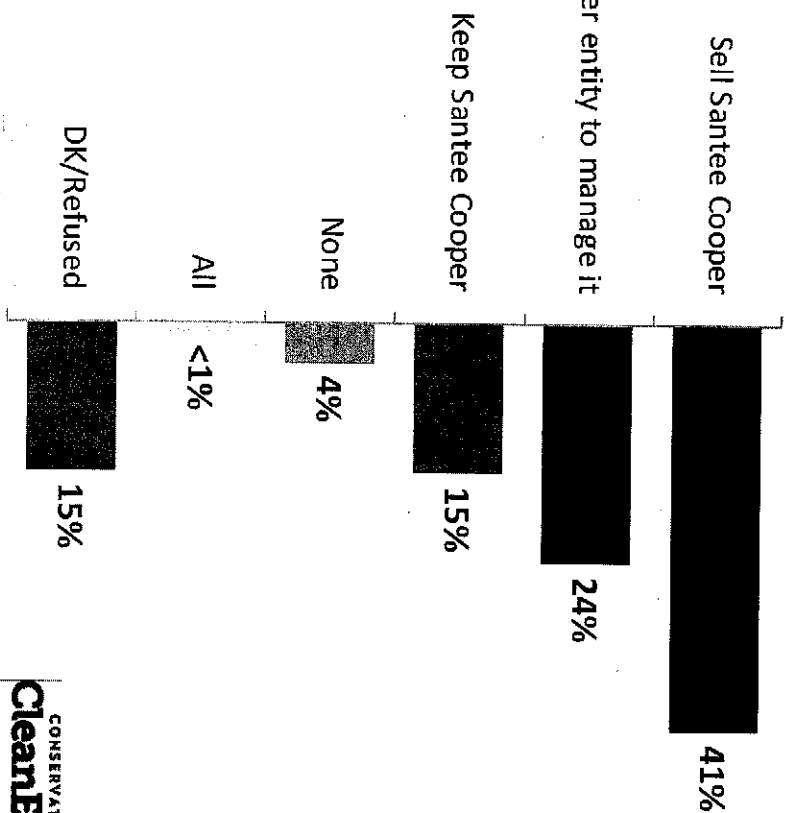
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When asked whether voters prefer selling Santee Cooper, allowing another entity to manage it or keeping as is, a plurality support selling Santee Cooper (41%). A quarter of voters (24%) prefer allowing another entity to manage Santee Cooper (24%), while fifteen percent (15%) would like to keep it and another fifteen percent (15%) are undecided.



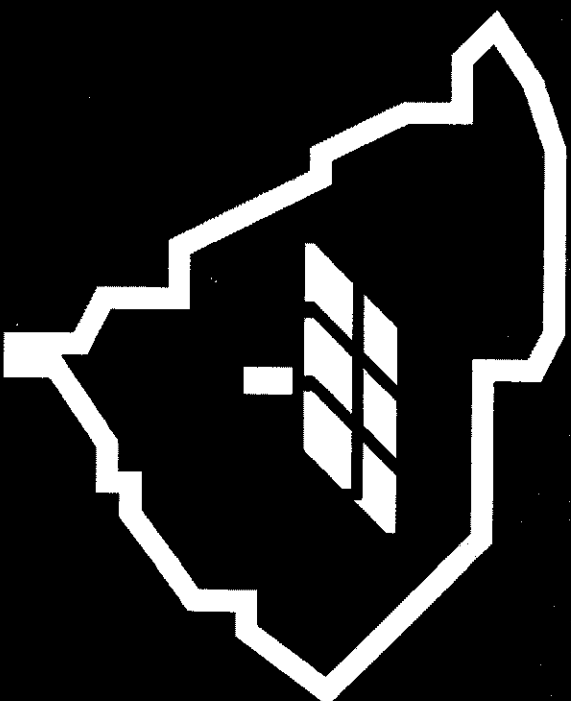
12. Santee Cooper Action



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	Demo Groups			
	Sell	Manage	Keep	
Republican	46%	23%	14%	
Independent/Other	43%	26%	11%	
Democrat	34%	27%	21%	
Men 18-54	40%	28%	14%	
Men 55+	46%	26%	10%	
Women 18-54	46%	27%	12%	
Women 55+	34%	18%	23%	
HS or Less	35%	27%	16%	
Some College	41%	22%	15%	
College Graduate	46%	31%	11%	
Post Graduate	47%	17%	19%	
White	43%	23%	15%	
African-American	33%	30%	16%	
Charleston	40%	21%	16%	
Charlotte	37%	37%	12%	
Columbia	47%	18%	19%	
Florence/Myrtle Beach	39%	31%	15%	
Greenville/Spartanburg/Asheville	38%	23%	14%	
CD 1	37%	17%	12%	
CD 2	46%	17%	12%	
CD 3	39%	16%	20%	
CD 4	36%	29%	9%	
CD 5	34%	27%	22%	
CD 6	47%	26%	19%	
CD 7	42%	31%	11%	

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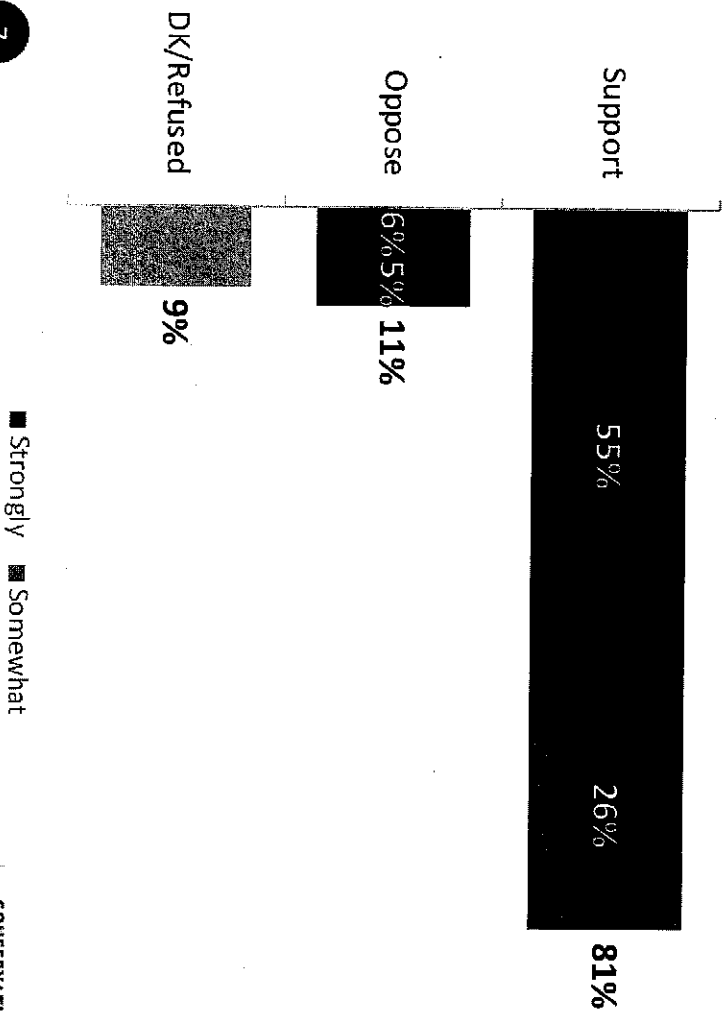
Measuring Support for Clean Energy

 **WPAI**
intelligence

Eight out of ten (81%) support the development of clean energy in South Carolina. This is driven by more than a majority (55%) who support this "strongly" and is met with little opposition.



5. Do you support or oppose the development of clean energy, like solar and wind in South Carolina?

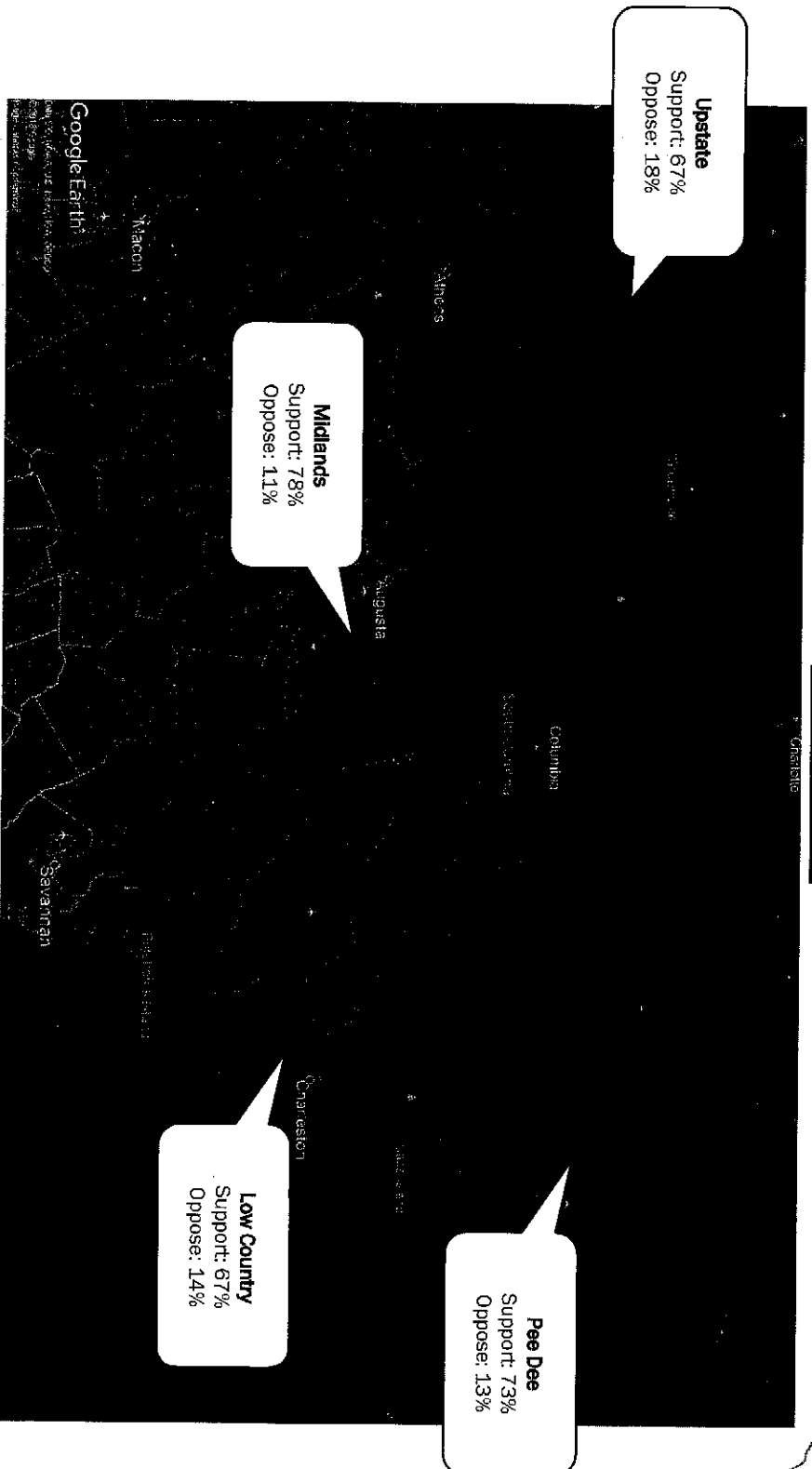


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Demo Groups			Support	Oppose
Republican			72%	14%
Independent/Other			85%	14%
Democrat			90%	6%
Men 18-54			83%	10%
Men 55+			77%	13%
Women 18-54			81%	11%
Women 55+			83%	8%
HS or Less			74%	15%
Some College			81%	9%
College Graduate			91%	5%
Post Graduate			88%	9%
White			78%	11%
African-American			87%	8%
Charleston			76%	11%
Charlotte			81%	8%
Columbia			82%	12%
Florence/Myrtle Beach			82%	12%
Greenville/Spartanburg/Asheville			75%	11%
CD 1			82%	7%
CD 2			87%	9%
CD 3			77%	9%
CD 4			73%	12%
CD 5			84%	8%
CD 6			81%	14%
CD 7			79%	13%

Over two in three Republican voters in all four regions are supportive of clean energy development. The highest support is found in the Midlands region (78%).

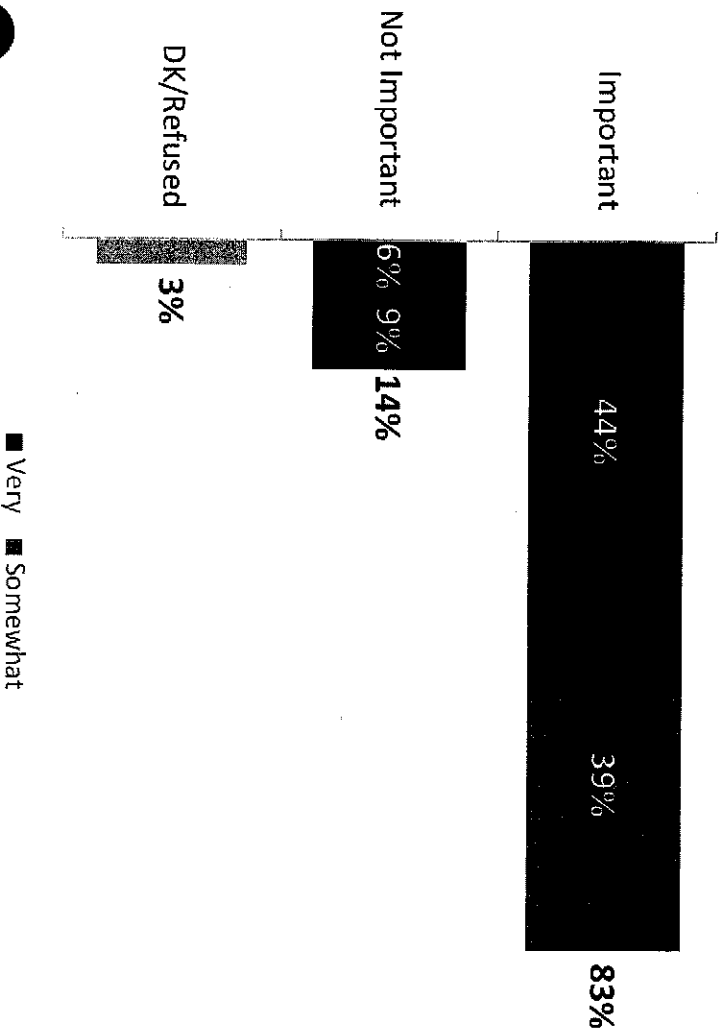
5. Do you support or oppose the development of clean energy, like solar and wind in South Carolina? (Republicans, n=198)



More than eight out of ten (83%) think the growth and use of renewable energy resources is an important priority for South Carolina. Opposition to this is low, with just over one in ten voters thinking the growth and use of renewables is not important (14%).



8. How much of a priority should it be for South Carolina to grow and use renewable energy resources, such as wind and solar?



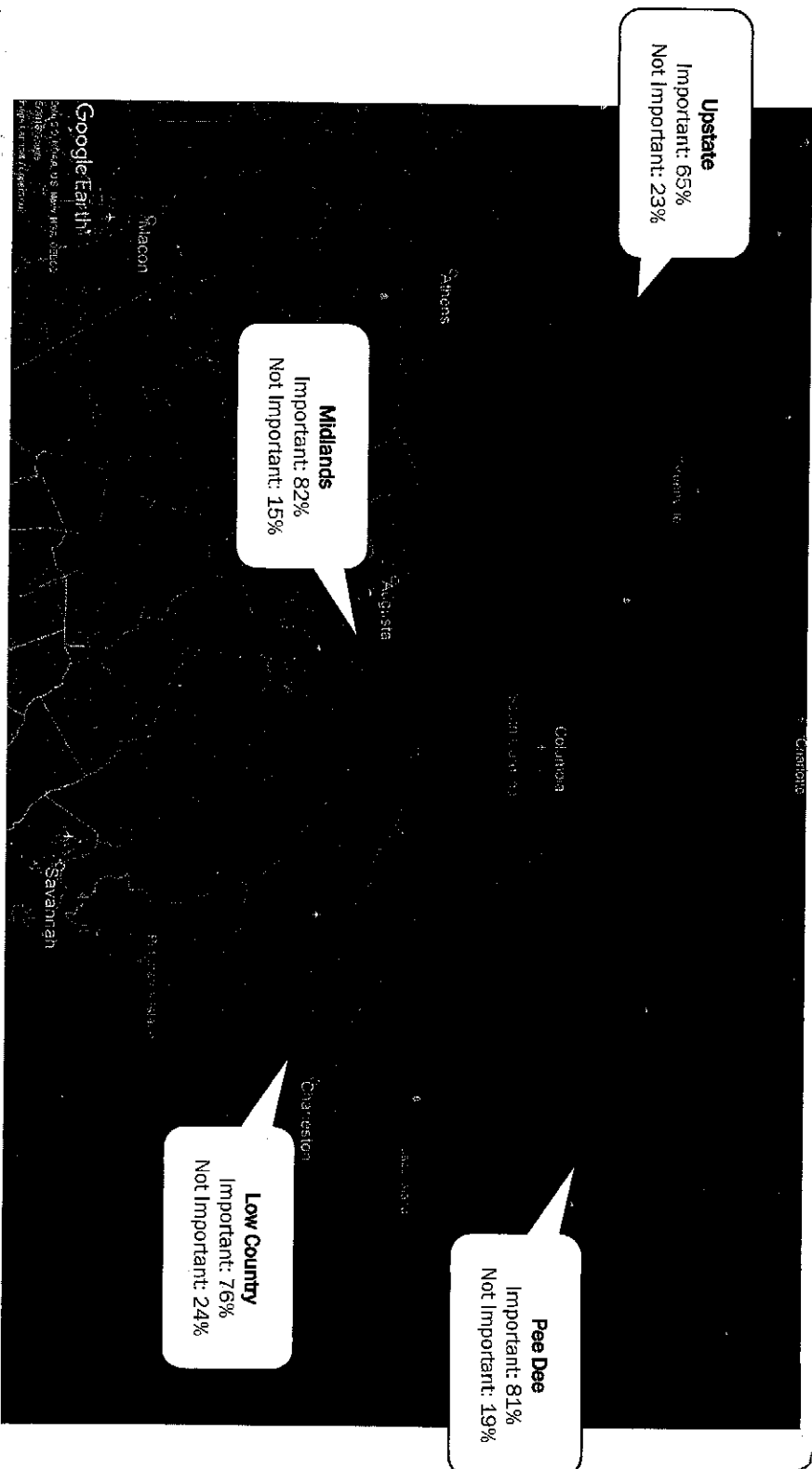
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Demo Groups		Important	Not Important
Republican		76%	20%
Independent/Other		83%	14%
Democrat		93%	6%
Men 18-54		82%	14%
Men 55+		84%	15%
Women 18-54		88%	10%
Women 55+		80%	16%
HS or Less		78%	19%
Some College		84%	13%
College Graduate		87%	12%
Post Graduate		89%	8%
White		81%	16%
African-American		88%	11%
Charleston		89%	9%
Charlotte		79%	18%
Columbia		81%	15%
Florence/Myrtle Beach		83%	17%
Greenville/Spartanburg/Asheville		77%	16%
CD 1		85%	14%
CD 2		87%	11%
CD 3		82%	15%
CD 4		74%	16%
CD 5		83%	14%
CD 6		81%	12%
CD 7		83%	17%



Two in three Republican voters in all four regions think the growth of renewables should be a priority for South Carolina. The Midlands region has the highest percentage of voters who agree growth should be a priority (82%).

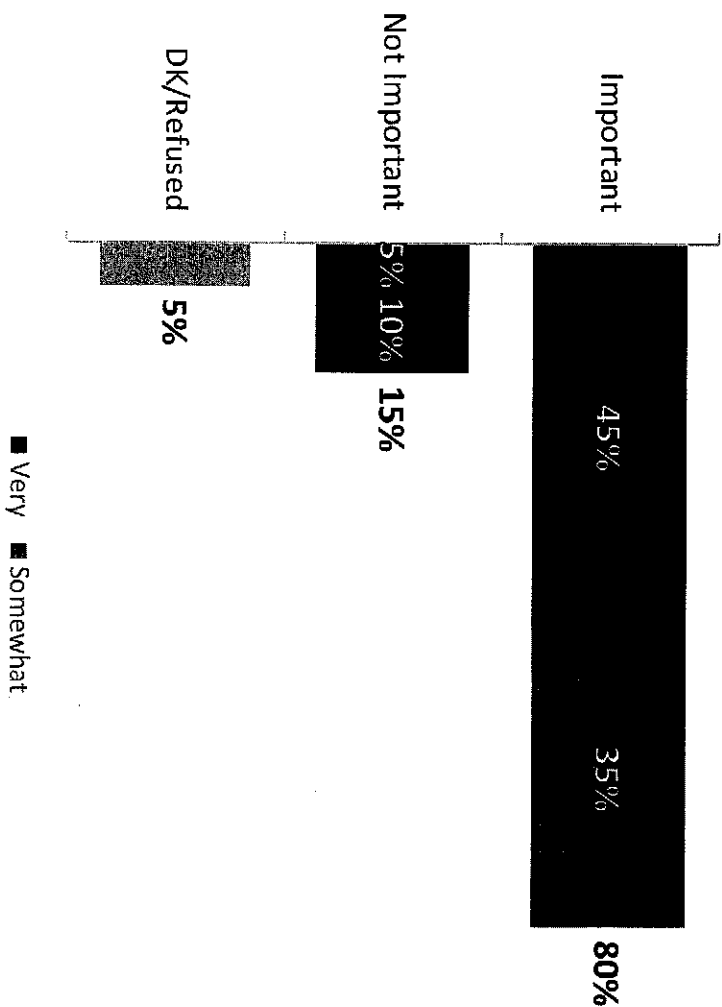
8. How much of a priority should it be for South Carolina to grow and use renewable energy resources, such as wind and solar? (Republicans, n=198)





Four in five voters (80%) think it is important for South Carolina to promote the growth of homegrown energy sources versus importing fossil fuels. In contrast, fifteen percent (15%) of voters do not think it is important.

9. And, how important would you say it is for South Carolina to promote the growth of its clean energy sources, such as solar and wind power versus importing fossil fuels like natural gas and oil?



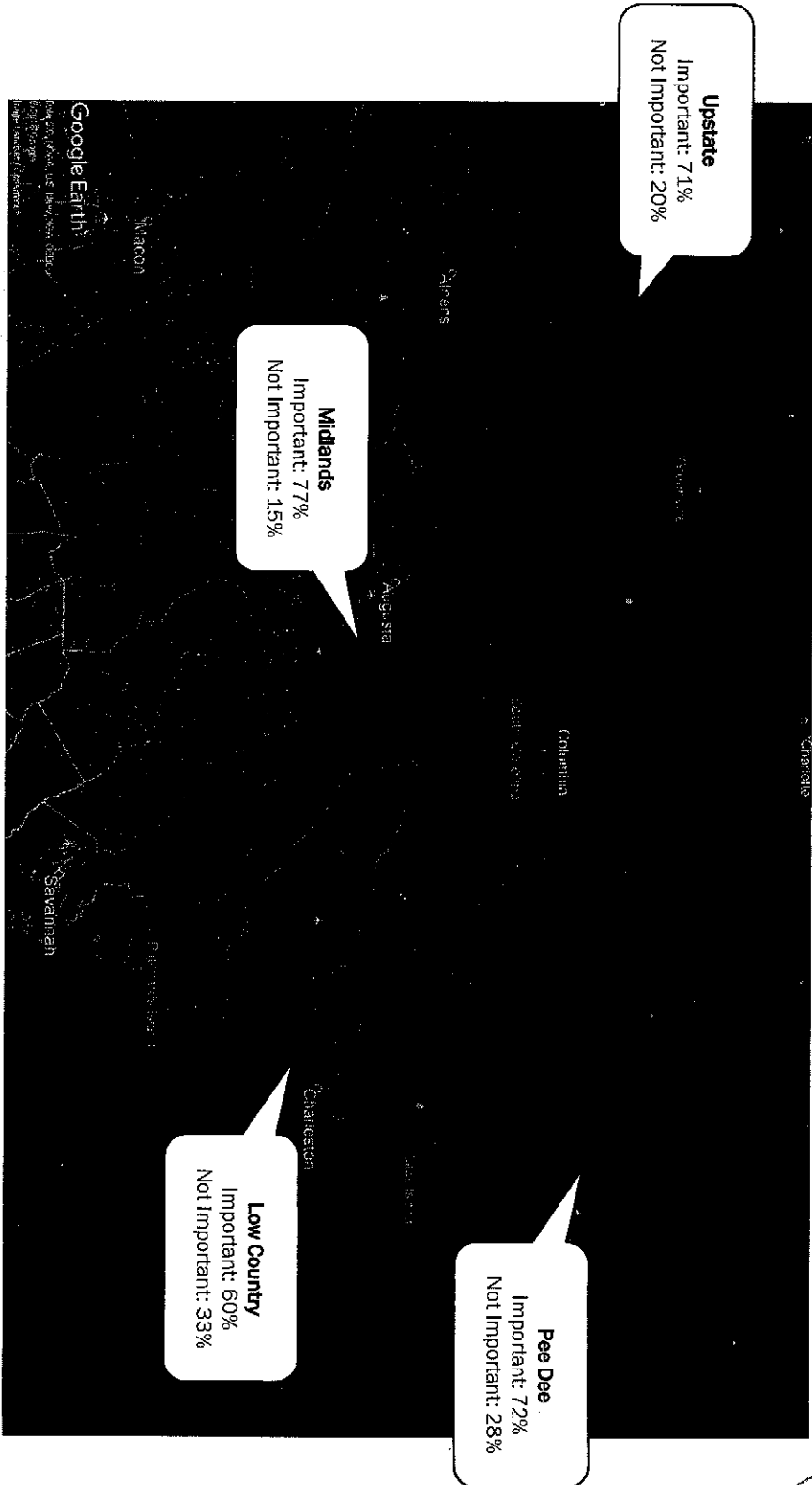
	Demo Groups	
	Important	Not Important
Republican	72%	23%
Independent/Other	86%	10%
Democrat	92%	6%
Men 18-54	80%	14%
Men 55+	81%	17%
Women 18-54	84%	11%
Women 55+	82%	15%
HS or Less	82%	13%
Some College	83%	13%
College Graduate	81%	15%
Post Graduate	78%	16%
White	79%	16%
African-American	83%	13%
Charleston	84%	13%
Charlotte	78%	21%
Columbia	77%	15%
Florence/Myrtle Beach	83%	14%
Greenville/Spartanburg/Asheville	80%	14%
CD 1	79%	17%
CD 2	80%	14%
CD 3	85%	12%
CD 4	72%	17%
CD 5	82%	16%
CD 6	75%	15%
CD 7	83%	15%

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Over three in five Republican voters in all four regions think the promotion of clean energy sources is important. The Midlands region has the highest percentage of voters who agree promotion is important (77%).

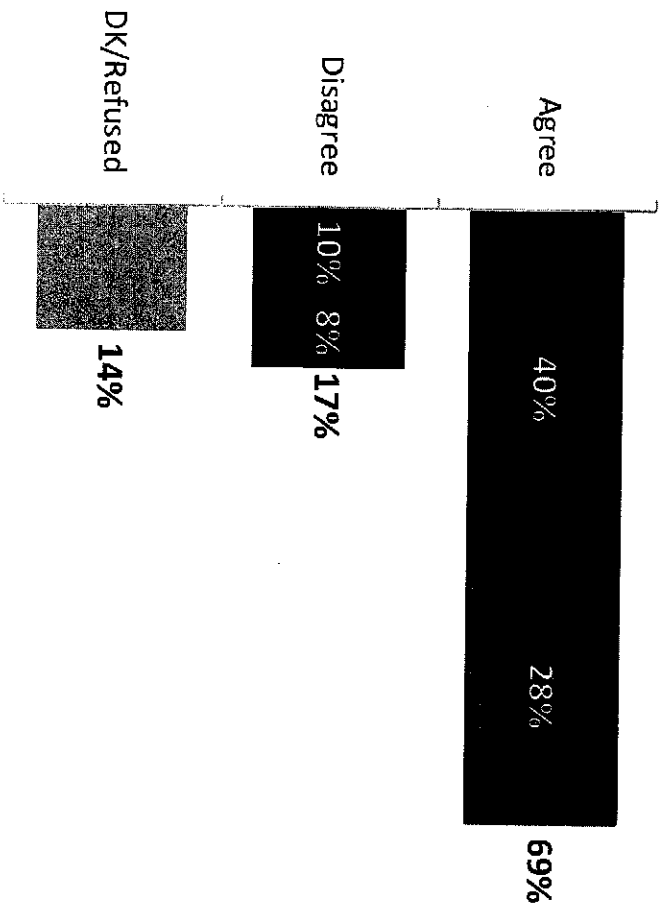
9. And, how important would you say it is for South Carolina to promote the growth of its clean energy sources, such as solar and wind power versus importing fossil fuels like natural gas and oil? (Republicans, n=198)





A significant seven out of ten voters (69%) think an increase in our use of clean and renewable energy sources in South Carolina, such as wind and solar, will create jobs and encourage economic development. This is bolstered by forty percent (40%) who agree with this strongly and seventeen percent (17%) disagree.

10. Some say increasing our use of clean and renewable energy sources in South Carolina, such as wind and solar, will create jobs and encourage economic development throughout the state.



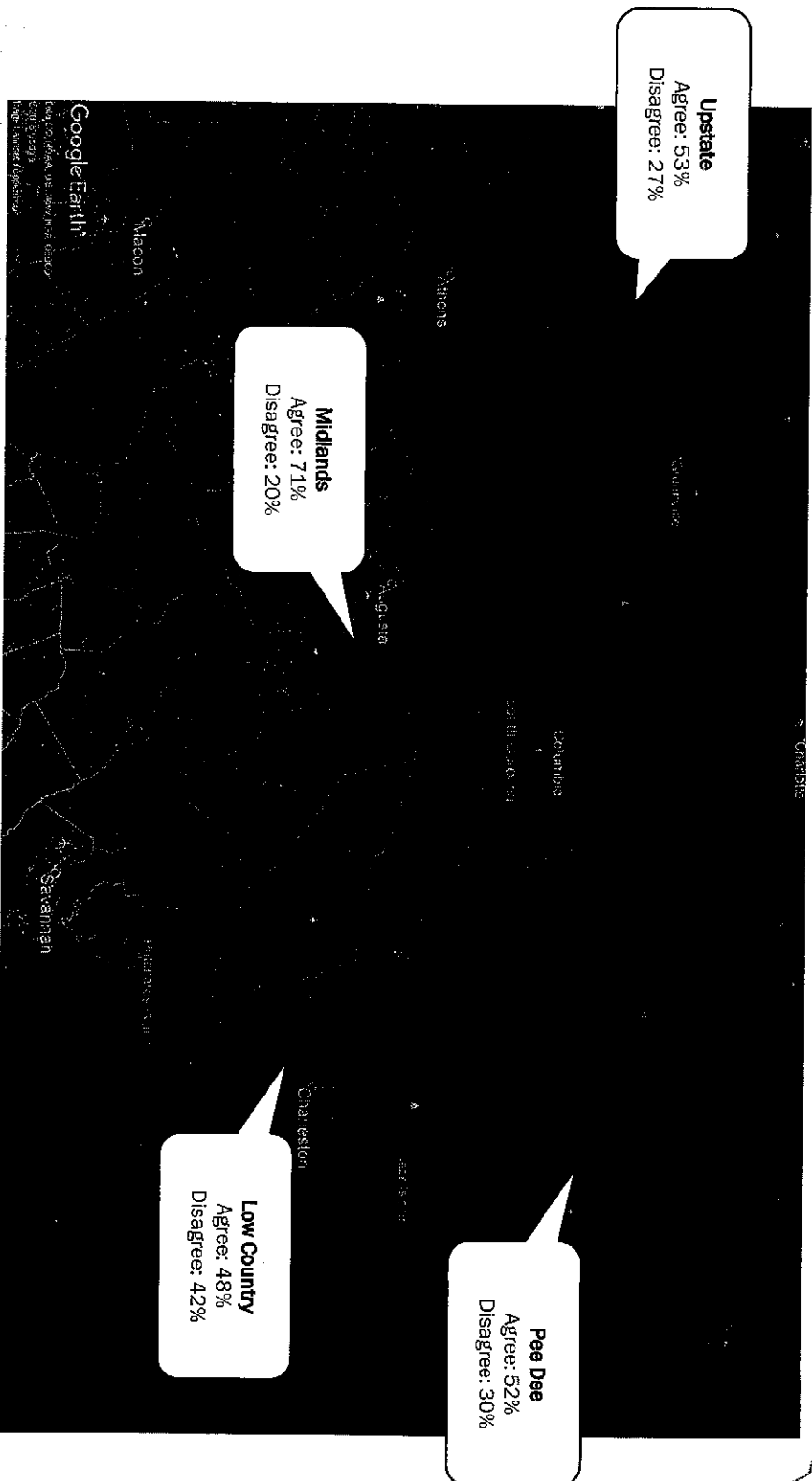
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Demo Groups		Agree	Disagree
Republican		58%	28%
Independent/Other		68%	12%
Democrat		87%	7%
Men 18-54		73%	17%
Men 55+		61%	24%
Women 18-54		69%	16%
Women 55+		69%	14%
HS or Less		72%	16%
Some College		64%	18%
College Graduate		74%	19%
Post Graduate		66%	16%
White		64%	20%
African-American		79%	11%
Charleston		70%	14%
Charlotte		64%	25%
Columbia		75%	16%
Florence/Myrtle Beach		69%	15%
Greenville/Spartanburg/Asheville		60%	18%
CD 1		68%	20%
CD 2		79%	12%
CD 3		59%	21%
CD 4		64%	13%
CD 5		69%	22%
CD 6		67%	20%
CD 7		70%	15%



Republican voters are more mixed over whether the use of renewables will create more jobs and encourage economic development. The Midlands region has the highest percentage of voters who agree there is a benefit (71%).

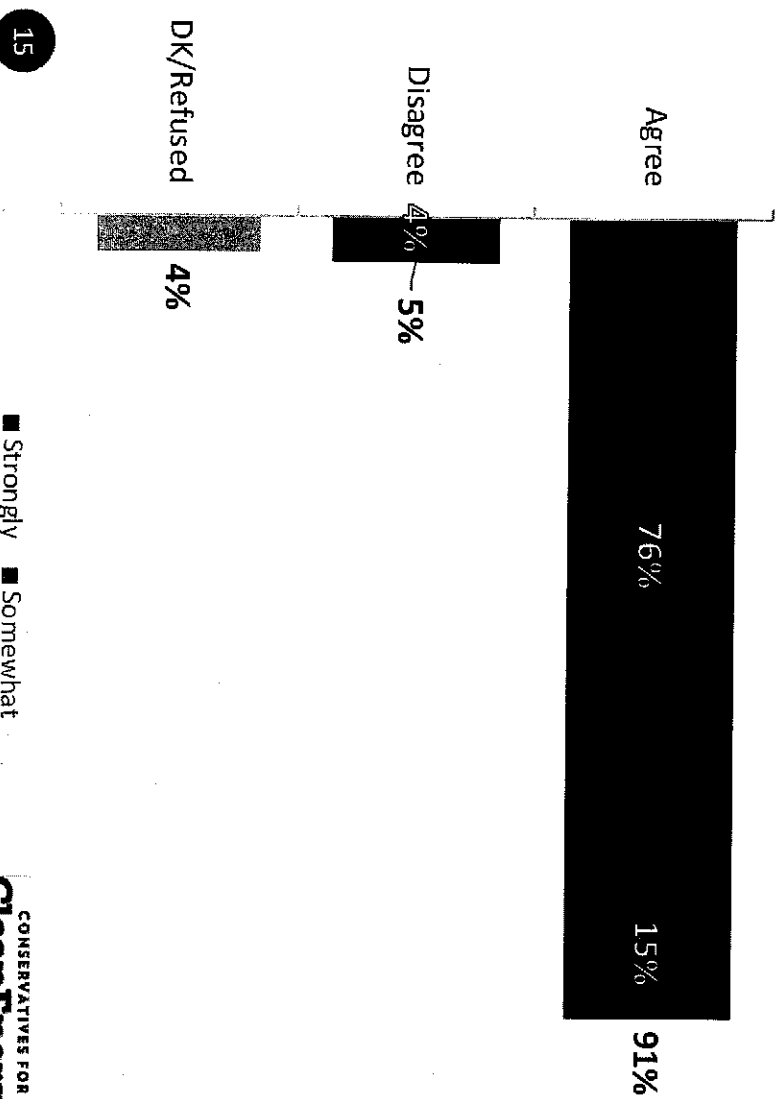
10. Some say increasing our use of clean and renewable energy sources in South Carolina, such as wind and solar, will create jobs and encourage economic development throughout the state. (Republicans, n=198)





A near universal figure of ninety-one percent (91%) of likely voters agree that we have a duty to be responsible stewards of God's creation when thinking about protecting the climate and promoting clean energy options. This is further supported by three quarters (76%) who agree with this strongly.

11. Thinking about protecting the climate and promoting clean energy options, please tell me if you agree or disagree that we have a duty to be responsible stewards of God's creation?



Demo Groups		Agree	Disagree
Republican		87%	9%
Independent/Other		91%	3%
Democrat		95%	3%
Men 18-54		92%	5%
Men 55+		86%	10%
Women 18-54		94%	5%
Women 55+		93%	4%
HS or Less		92%	4%
Some College		90%	7%
College Graduate		94%	5%
Post Graduate		89%	5%
White		90%	6%
African-American		93%	4%
Charleston		93%	5%
Charlotte		92%	6%
Columbia		88%	8%
Florence/Myrtle Beach		91%	5%
Greenville/Spartanburg/Asheville		87%	5%
CD 1		92%	4%
CD 2		91%	6%
CD 3		93%	5%
CD 4		80%	4%
CD 5		93%	5%
CD 6		90%	4%
CD 7		90%	7%

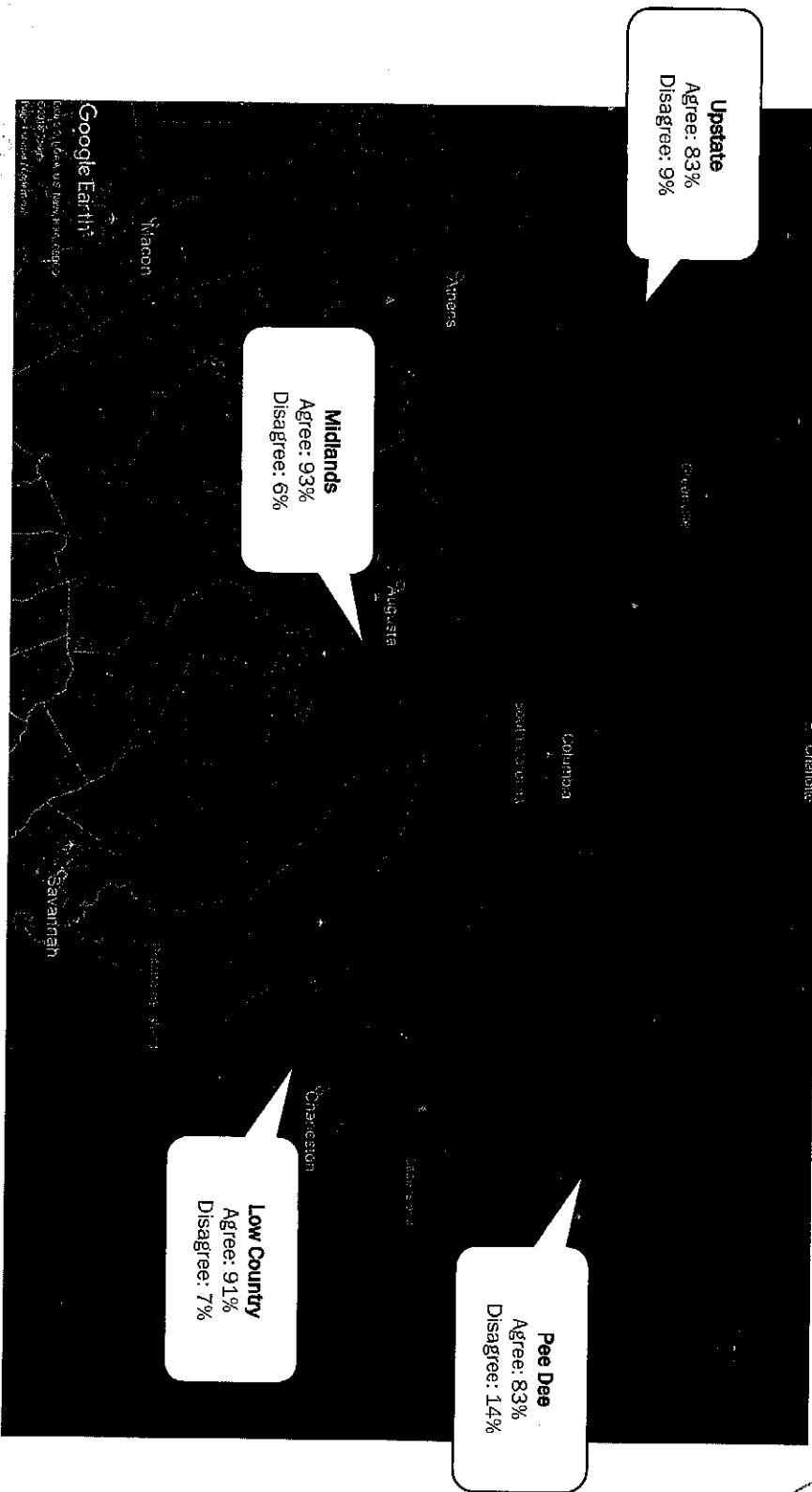
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■ Strongly ■ Somewhat

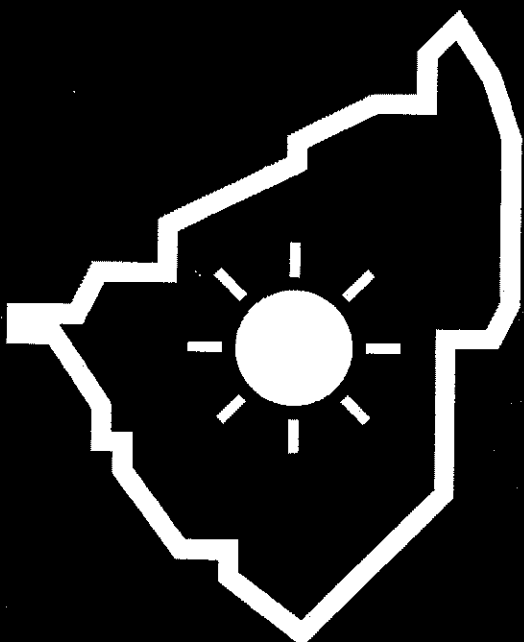


Over four in five Republican voters in all four regions think that there is a responsibility to be stewards of God's creation. The Midlands region has the highest percentage of voters who agree there is a responsibility (93%).

11. Thinking about protecting the climate and promoting clean energy options, please tell me if you agree or disagree that we have a duty to be responsible stewards of God's creation? (Republicans, n=198)



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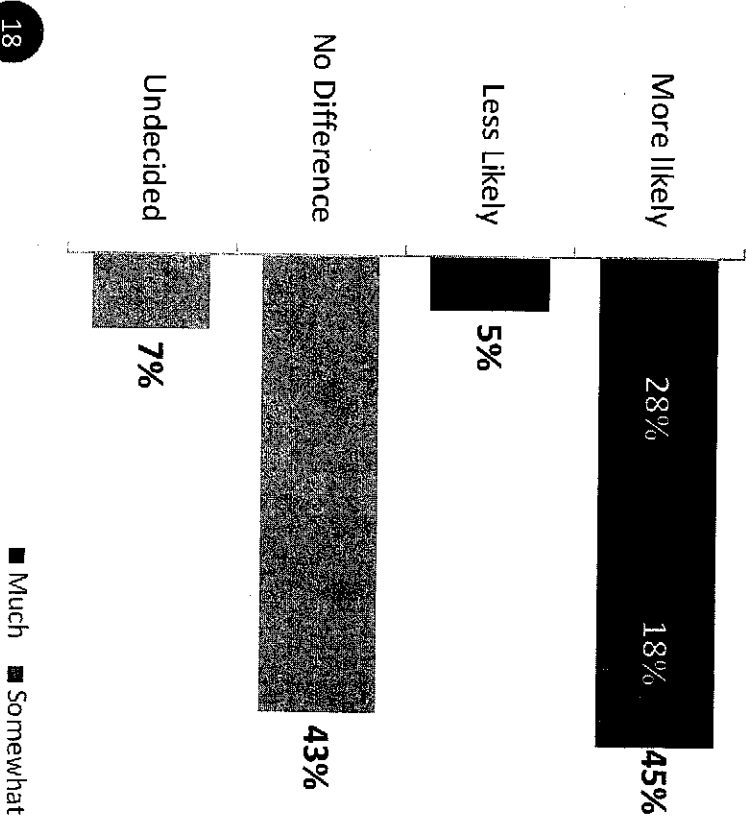

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Politics and Understanding Support for Clean Energy



Voters are essentially split as to whether they would be more likely (45%) or it would make no difference to them (43%) in their vote for a candidate for political office if they supported clean energy. Notably, just five percent (5%) would be less likely.

6. Would you be more likely or less likely to vote for a candidate for political office here in South Carolina if you learned that the candidate supports the development and use of clean energy, like solar, wind, and energy efficiency or does it make no difference?



Demo Groups		
	More Likely	No Difference
Republican	29%	55%
Independent/Other	50%	38%
Democrat	65%	30%
Men 18-54	56%	33%
Men 55+	35%	51%
Women 18-54	45%	44%
Women 55+	43%	46%
HS or Less	41%	48%
Some College	42%	44%
College Graduate	52%	36%
Post Graduate	54%	39%
White	42%	45%
African-American	53%	39%
Charleston	49%	37%
Charlotte	39%	54%
Columbia	44%	44%
Florence/Myrtle Beach	40%	48%
Greenville/Spartanburg/Asheville	47%	38%
CD 1	54%	31%
CD 2	43%	44%
CD 3	51%	37%
CD 4	47%	42%
CD 5	42%	51%
CD 6	47%	42%
CD 7	41%	47%

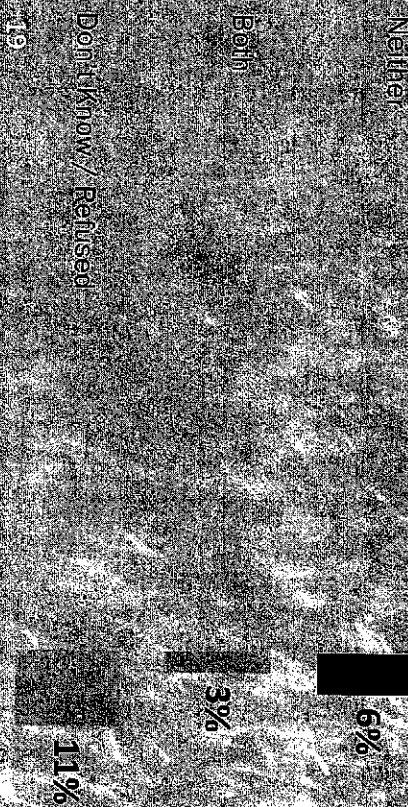
A majority (56%) would vote for a candidate that supports encouraging the development of renewable energy sources through economic incentives. In contrast, a quarter (25%) prefer a candidate who says we have enough energy sources already and clean energy policies are liberal attempts to grow the government.



7. I am going to read you two statements about two candidates for the state legislature, please tell me which of the two you would be most likely to support based upon these two statements...

A candidate that supports encouraging the development of renewable energy sources such as wind and solar through economic incentives. This candidate believes that by solely relying upon traditional energy sources such as oil, coal, and natural gas we are putting our economy and nation at risk from global forces beyond our control.

A candidate that says we have enough energy sources already and that clean energy policies are just another way for liberals like Nancy Pelosi and Bernie Sanders to get the government programs at taxpayers' expense in order to save the environment.

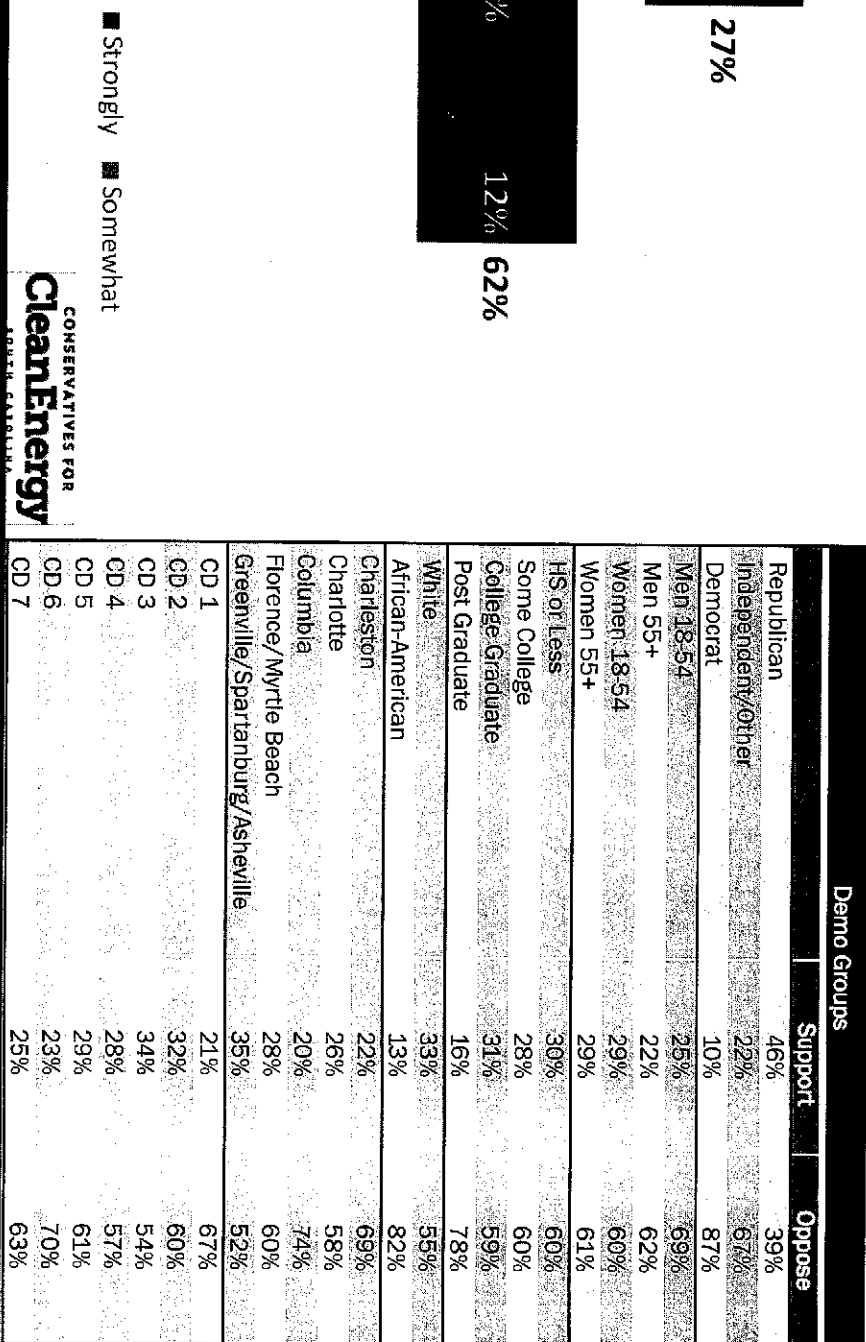


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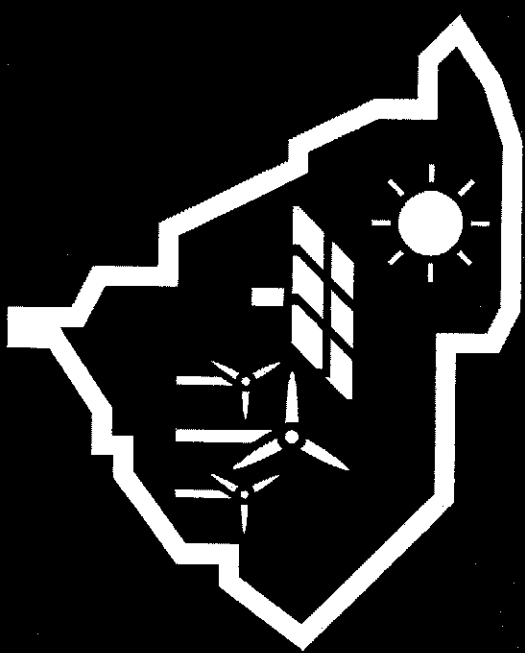
Demo Groups		Encourage	Enough
Republican		45%	36%
Independent/Other		58%	20%
Democrat		72%	12%
Men 18-54		59%	21%
Men 55+		55%	27%
Women 18-54		53%	25%
Women 55+		61%	28%
HS or Less		57%	23%
Some College		57%	27%
College Graduate		57%	23%
Post Graduate		55%	25%
White		53%	29%
African-American		61%	16%
Charleston		57%	26%
Charlotte		54%	28%
Columbia		54%	26%
Florence/Myrtle Beach		61%	24%
Greenville/Spartanburg/Asheville		50%	22%
CD 1		58%	29%
CD 2		56%	23%
CD 3		46%	30%
CD 4		53%	19%
CD 5		54%	28%
CD 6		57%	21%
CD 7		60%	24%

More than six out of ten (62%) of likely voters oppose the exploration of drilling off of the coast. This is supported by half of voters (50%) who oppose this strongly. In contrast, a quarter (27%) support drilling.

13. President Trump supports opening the ocean off South Carolina's coast for the exploration of gas and oil. Some Republicans, including Governor McMaster and Attorney General Wilson, oppose that move out of concern the exploration could endanger our coastal communities and the coast's tourism industry. Knowing this, Do you support or oppose the exploration of drilling off South Carolina's coast?



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Key Findings



Key Findings



- If the election for President were held today, a plurality would vote for Donald Trump (46%), representing a 12-point lead ahead of a generic Democrat nominee (34%). Just three percent (3%) select Schultz and a significant seventeen percent (17%) are undecided.
- Senator Graham enjoys a 23-point lead and majority support on the ballot (55%) ahead of potential Democrat candidate Harrison. Further, nearly half of all likely voters (47%) indicate they would "definitely" vote for Graham if the election were today.
- When asked whether voters prefer selling Santee Cooper, allowing another entity to manage it or keeping as is, a plurality support selling Santee Cooper (41%). A quarter of voters (24%) prefer allowing another entity to manage Santee Cooper (24%), while fifteen percent (15%) would like to keep it and another fifteen percent (15%) are undecided.
- Eight out of ten (81%) support the development of clean energy in South Carolina. This is driven by more than a majority (55%) who support this "strongly" and is met with little opposition.
- More than eight out of ten (83%) think the growth and use of renewable energy resources is an important priority for South Carolina. Opposition to this is low, with just over one in ten voters thinking the growth and use of renewables is not important (14%).
- Four in five voters (80%) think it is important for South Carolina to promote the growth of homegrown energy sources versus importing fossil fuels. In contrast, fifteen percent (15%) of voters do not think it is important.



Key Findings

- A significant seven out of ten voters (69%) think an increase in our use of clean and renewable energy sources in South Carolina, such as wind and solar, will create jobs and encourage economic development. This is bolstered by forty percent (40%) who agree with this strongly and seventeen percent (17%) disagree.
- A near universal figure of ninety-one percent (91%) of likely voters agree that we have a duty to be responsible stewards of God's creation when thinking about protecting the climate and promoting clean energy options. This is further supported by three quarters (76%) who agree with this strongly.
- Voters are essentially split as to whether they would be more likely (45%) or it would make no difference to them (43%) in their vote for a candidate for political office if they supported clean energy. Notably, just five percent (5%) would be less likely.
- A majority (56%) would vote for a candidate that supports encouraging the development of renewable energy sources through economic incentives. In contrast, a quarter (25%) prefer a candidate who says we have enough energy sources already and clean energy policies are liberal attempts to grow the government.
- More than six out of ten (62%) of likely voters oppose the exploration of drilling off of the coast. This is supported by half of voters (50%) who oppose this strongly. In contrast, a quarter (27%) support drilling.

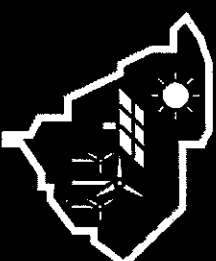
Methodology and Research Design



WPA Intelligence conducted a study among likely voters in South Carolina.

WPAI selected a random sample of registered voters from the South Carolina voter file using Registration Based Sampling (RBS). The sample for this survey was stratified based on geography, age, gender. This methodology allows us to avoid post-survey "weighting" which can reduce the reliability of survey results.

Respondents were contacted by phone via a live telephone operator interview March 11-13, 2019. The study has a sample size of n=500 likely voters with 33% mobile phones, and a margin of error of $\pm 4.4\%$ in 95 out of 100 cases.





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For questions or projects, reach out to us anytime.

